**CHRIST COMPANION BIBLE CHURCH**

**Weekly Bible Study**

***Branch: Headquarters Date:02/01/2024***

**EMPOWERED BY THE GRACE OF GOD. PART1. Study1.**

**Text Genesis 6:8-22. 1Corinthian 15:10,1Peter 3: 18**

**Memory Verse: 1 Peter 5:10 “But the God of all grace, who hath called us unto his eternal glory by Christ Jesus, after that ye have suffered a while, make you perfect, stablish, strengthen, settle you.*”.***

Grace scripturally, is the life and power of God, working in man! The divine ability that compensates for human inability to live and fulfill God's purpose on earth!

As seen in the life of Noah in the above scripture, grace makes as much difference as death to life! It is the God's sent helper that you needed to succeed on earth and in your pilgrim's journey for eternal bliss with Christ.

May this year be accompanied with fullness of grace in Christ for every living soul in Jesus name.

**I. Meaning of the Grace Of God.- Luke 2:40; John 1:14.**

Grace can mean many things to different people. To some, it means: Personal charming traits of endowments, favour, help, merits, fortune etc.

In the context of Christianity, and our study, grace means more than these temporal things mentioned above.

Looking at the scriptures above as it is applied to our Lord:

***"Grace is God's enabling power, revealed and given to believers for the development, understanding, pursuit and fulfillment of God's purpose/intentions"***.

In a more simplified form:

Grace can be defined as God's presence and power working out His counsels in a man! Philippians 2:13.

**II. The Importance and Superiority of the Grace of God.**

John 1:14-17. 1 Corinthian 15:10.

**1**. God had always wanted to proof to mankind, the indispensability of the grace of God. Throughout human dispensational period, the futility of reliance on any resources for sustenance, apart from the grace of God was very glaring. For examples:

i. Adam and Eve wanted to explore without grace! In the attempt, they went underground with resultant depravity!

ii. Abraham swerved from resting on the promise of grace, was found in the error of self- indulgence with Haggai. The outcome till date is still regret.

iii. The law also, with all sort of rituals, as enacted by Moses couldn't make man perfect! Why? The law is external, and can by no means rule human's will.

The law enforcement is by fear of judgment (consequences).

Grace therefore is superior due to its inward working power, and motivation that is based on love! John 14:23 (KJV) says:

***"Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him"***. Therefore, perfection comes by the grace of God.

**2**. Grace is God's final answer to the need of man. This is due to the following attributes of grace:

i. ***Grace works by faith:*** Its focus rests on what can be achieved through the power of God as against human effort! Hence Sarah through grace believed, conceived and delivered Isaac at ninety years of age! See Romans 4:16-20

***Lesson:*** This year, do not operate base on your personal limitation, See with the eyes of faith, think with the mind of Christ to achieve the impossible!

ii. ***Grace works by enlightenment and knowledge***. Titus 2:11-14. When Paul was enlightened by grace, he exclaimed! Who will deliver me from the body of death? Romans 7:24.

***Lesson***: This year, pray for divine revelation by grace, to see where you are, and the level God wants you to attain. This will set your heart on fire to make a difference!

iii. ***Grace impacts hope of better things to come:*** 2Thessalonians 2:16.

Joseph found grace with God, thus he could hope for the best in hopeless situations, living to please God and rendering services that brought glory to the name of the Lord!

***Lesson***: Do not allow the unfavorable circumstances surrounding you now to fizzle out your excitement and plan for possible exploits.

Develop yourself for valuable and rewarding services like Joseph. Genesis 39:2-6.

v. ***Grace brings salvation and justification to the repentant***. Ephesians 2:5-8.

Peter, Andrew, Philip, Nathaniel, etc met Christ in circumstances that were providentially arranged! Their salvation, followership of Christ and justification were by divine grace!

Are you outside the grace of God today? Take this as God’s grace at work and embrace this opportunity as the word of God coming to you.

If you are in Christ already, count it a great privilege. Labour to love God, serve Him and be found spotlessly at Christ's appearing. Let grace prepare you daily as a briSde awaiting the groom!

vi. ***Grace abounds and is always sufficient for everyone that believes***.

When God give you a task, grace will accomplish it!

No matter the assignment, challenges or demand of your calling this year, grace can multiply to meet your needs.

Trust God this year, His grace is ever sufficient to see you through in your entire journey. 2Corinthians 9:8. Amen.

**HYMN: GRACE GREATER THAN OUR SIN (CHS27)**

1. Marvelous grace of our loving Lord,

Grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt!

Yonder on Calvary’s mount outpoured—

There where the blood of the Lamb was spilt.

*Grace, grace, God’s grace,*

*Grace that will pardon and cleanse within,*

*Grace, grace, God’s grace,*

*Grace that is greater than all our sin!*

2. Sin and despair, like the sea waves cold,

Threaten the soul with infinite loss;

Grace that is greater—yes, grace untold—

Points to the refuge, the mighty cross.

3.Dark is the stain that we cannot hide—

What can avail to wash it away?

Look! there is flowing a crimson tide—

Whiter than snow you may be today.

4.Marvelous, infinite, matchless grace,

Freely bestowed on all who believe!

You that are longing to see His face,

Will you this moment His grace receive?